

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 14, 16, 20, 23, 25, 27, 45 and 46, as previously presented, and claims 4, 8, 17, 18, 28 and 29 as filed are pending in the application. Claims 13, 15, 24, 26, 35-44, 47 and 48 were cancelled previously without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 3, 7, 10, 11, 19, 21, 22, 30-34, 49 and 50 are withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention.

Applicant respectfully traverses the newly-imposed restriction on the grounds that prosecution of the pending claims is sufficiently far advanced that completing examination of the two claims grouped outside the claimed group identified by the Examiner would occasion no undue burden on the Office. However, should the Examiner require it, Applicant asks that he cancel the withdrawn claims by Examiner's amendment when all other grounds of rejection have been overcome.

CONCLUSIONS

Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that the pending claims be passed to issue.

If Examiner Lu believes it to be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned representative by telephone at (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

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